

Docket No.: 201487/1020 (E2-001PGT-US) AUG

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Notomi et al.

Serial No. : 09/530,061 based on PCT/JP99/06213

Filed: November 8, 1999

For : METHOD OF SYNTHESIZING NUCLEIC

ACID

Examiner:

A. Chakrabarti

Art Unit: 1632

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Box:

Dear Sir:

In response to the February 15, 2001, office action, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-11 and 13-28 without prejudice add new claims 29-50 as follows.

29. A method of amplifying a nucleic acid comprising:

A) providing a first template having (i) a 3' end portion comprising a first region and a first complementary region which, under suitable conditions, anneal to one another to form a first loop, (ii) a 5' end portion comprising a second region and a second complementary region which, under suitable conditions, anneal to one another to form a second loop, and (iii) a single-stranded target region connecting the 3' end portion and the 5' end portion;

B) synthesizing a nucleic acid chain complementary to the singlestranded target region using the 3' terminal of the first template, when the first region and first complementary region are annealed to one another, as the origin of said synthesizing;

C) annealing to the first loop of the first template an oligonucleotide primer comprising at the 3' terminal a nucleotide sequence complementary to the first loop;

Sub ?